

DRAFT

2003 Program Agenda

Working for Justice: Careers in the Courts

Judges may arrive in the courtroom around 9:15 a.m. to converse informally with teachers, students, volunteer attorneys and others before the program starts

9:30-10:00 a.m. 1) Students arrive at courthouse; 2) judge's welcoming remarks; 3) participating attorneys review case facts.

10:00-10:15 a.m. **Break**

Roles During the mock trial the entire audience is the jury. Students, selected in advance by their teachers for each courtroom role, sit next to their adult counterparts. Two students may be selected for each adult, including the presiding judge. *The host judge, court personnel, and volunteer attorneys serve in their real-life roles. However, students read the scripted parts, alternating as appropriate, between the two students selected for each role.

10:15 - 12:00 p.m. **Stop-Action Mock Trial and Sentencing.** Students, with coaching from their adult counterparts seated next to them, play out the trial and sentencing. Some students are seated in the jury box, but the entire audience is advised that it will vote on the verdict.

Career Showcase During the Proceedings

In advance, coordinators have selected and prepared courtroom and behind-the-scenes justice system personnel to come forward before the proceedings, as appropriate to the jobs. They will make a 3-5 sentence statement about their role in this particular case as an example of what they do in the legal process.

Taking the Verdict

Due to time limitations and the focus on careers -- not the trial itself -- the judge takes the verdict by asking the audience for a show of hands. The judge explains that, in the interest of time, it is necessary to poll the audience so that the students can be exposed to more careers in the justice system.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Behind-the-Scenes Career Showcase

Students from different schools are organized into small groups. Students stay in their groups and go through a rotation of several designated offices for approximately 15 minutes each. At each office, students experience (rather than listen to descriptions of) what happens behind the scenes. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions about careers in the following agencies:

- **U.S. Marshal's Office/FBI**
- **District and Bankruptcy Clerk's Office**
- **Federal Public Defender and U.S. Attorney**
- **Judges**
- **Pretrial Services and Probation**

2:15 p.m.

All students return to courtroom for the adjournment ceremony.

2:20 p.m.

Adjournment